



On-body Injector for Neulasta®

Neulasta® is a drug that your cancer care team may give you to help decrease your risk for infection after you receive specific chemotherapy (chemo) medicines. Neulasta reduces the risk of infection by increasing the number of white blood cells in your body. This drug is usually given by injection around 24 hours after your chemo.

The **On-body Injector for Neulasta** is a device that automatically administers Neulasta, by injection, the day after the device is put on your body.

The On-body Injector is usually placed on your stomach or the back of your arm. It is applied by your nurse, on the last day of each chemotherapy cycle. You will leave the clinic wearing the device. Approximately 27 hours after it is applied to your body, the device will slowly inject Neulasta into your skin. This takes approximately 45 minutes.



While You are in the Clinic

1. After the On-body Injector is placed on your body, there will be a short period of time (less than 3 minutes) in which a small needle will insert a small plastic tube called a “cannula” into your skin. The needle will retract and leave the cannula in your skin. There will not be a sharp needle in your skin, just the cannula.
2. After a series of noises and clicks, the fill status on the On-body Injector will indicate FULL.
3. A light on the On-body Injector will turn **green** and blink, slowly (about every 5-10 seconds), until it is ready to administer the drug the next day.

Before you leave the clinic, a nurse will write down the approximate time that your dose of Neulasta will deliver (see the the end of this document for details).

While You are at Home

Check the status of the On-body Injector occasionally. If you cannot see the device easily, use a mirror or ask someone else to check the device. In general:

- The light should be **green**, blinking slowly (about every 5-10 seconds).
- The fill status should indicate **“FULL.”**
- If you hear a **beeping** sound or notice that the light is **red**, call your cancer care team.

Tips for Avoiding Problems with the On-body Injector

- Do not sleep on the On-body Injector device.
- Avoid bumping the device.
- Avoid machines such as MRI, CT scan, X-ray, ultrasound, and hyperbaric chambers (medical use of high levels of oxygen).
- Avoid airport scans. Request a manual pat-down screening instead.
- Keep the On-body Injector at least 4 inches away from microwaves, laptops, cellphones, and other common electrical appliances. This helps prevent interference with operation.
- Do not submerge the device in water. Avoid hot tubs, saunas, and swimming.
- If you shower, do so only up to 3 hours prior to the expected time of drug delivery. This will ensure that any leaks can be detected.
- Avoid using lotions, creams, and oils around the site of the device. This can loosen the adhesive.
- Avoid exposing the device to extremely cold temperatures (below 41 degrees Fahrenheit/5 degrees Celsius) or very hot temperatures (above 104 degrees Fahrenheit/40 degrees Celsius).

Near the Drug Delivery Time (about 26 to 29 hours after device application)

- Avoid traveling, driving, or operating heavy machinery during hours 26-29, after the device is applied.
- Do not plan activities that will interfere with your ability to monitor the device during the 45-minute delivery time and for 1 hour after the delivery.
- You might want to have a friend or family member nearby the first time you use the device.

While the Drug Is Being Delivered

1. After about 27 hours, the On-body Injector device will begin to beep. This signals that the medicine is ready to be administered (about 2 minutes after the beeping begins).
2. Try to find a place to rest quietly while the Neulasta is being delivered.
3. When the delivery of the medicine starts, the **green** light will blink more quickly. The delivery will take about 45 minutes and you should not feel anything while it is entering your body.
4. During this time, watch for any leaks. **If the edges of the device become wet, the device may be leaking. You should call your cancer care team.** You may not have received the complete dose.
5. When the delivery is complete, the light will turn **solid green** (no blinking).
6. The fill status should indicate **EMPTY**. **If the injector is not empty, call your cancer care team.**
7. When the fill status is **EMPTY** and the light is solid green, it will be safe to remove the device.

Removing the Device

1. Remove the On-body Injector device by grabbing an edge of the adhesive pad and slowly peeling it off. Remember, there is no sharp needle – just the cannula.
2. Discard the entire device into a sharps container.
3. You can keep the sharps container in your home for future administrations of Neulasta. When the container is full, close the lid and bring it to your next clinic visit.

If You Have an Allergic Reaction

If you have an allergic reaction during the delivery of Neulasta, remove the injector (grab an edge of the adhesive pad and slowly peel it off) and **get emergency help. Call 911.**

When to Call Your Cancer Care Team

Call your cancer care team if you notice **any** of the following issues:

- The transparent dressing becomes noticeably **wet** or **drips**.
- The status light flashes **red** at any time.
- The On-body Injector does **not** indicate that it is EMPTY after the delivery is complete.
- The **device falls off** or the **dressing becomes detached** before delivery.
- You notice any **redness** or **discomfort** related to the device.

If the device is not functioning, remove it and call your cancer team.

If you are not sure who to call, call the page operator at **617-632-3352**. You will need an appointment to receive the injection within 24-72 hours of the completion of your chemotherapy.

Time and date of application: _____

Expected time of drug delivery: _____

For more information, visit www.neulasta.com/on-body-injector.

Things that may occur during or within hours of treatment

1. Burning, itching, redness, or swelling at the injection site may occur. These reactions are usually mild and go away. Applying a cold pack to the area may help.
2. Flu-like symptoms, such as fever and chills, may occur 30 minutes to 2 hours after the injection. If these occur, your doctor may suggest taking Tylenol® to help control the symptoms. Please let your doctor or nurse know if Tylenol is not effective, as other drugs may be given.



Things that may occur a few days to weeks later

1. Some patients may feel very tired, also known as fatigue. You may need to rest or take naps more often. Mild to moderate exercise can also be helpful in maintaining your energy.
2. Bone pain may occur because the drug is working inside your bones. Tylenol or other pain relievers may help.

Things that are very rare, but serious

- If you feel pain on the left side of your stomach or shoulder, call your cancer care team right away. This pain could be a sign that something is wrong with your spleen.
- If you have trouble breathing, fever, shortness of breath, or fast breathing, call your cancer care team right away or call 911. This could be a specific problem with your lungs called acute respiratory distress syndrome (ARDS).
- If you notice puffiness in your face or feet, your urine turns brown or red, and you use the bathroom less often, call your cancer team right away. This could mean you have a problem with your kidneys.

The above information includes some, but not necessarily all, of the possible side effects of this medication. The side effects listed in this teaching sheet may not be the same ones you experience. Your side effects may be different, depending on how often you receive treatment (your schedule) and how much you receive each time (your dosage). Side effects may also vary if you are taking other medications. Please speak with your doctor or nurse if you have questions about possible side effects you may experience. If you experience any significant change in your health during or after treatment, contact a member of your health care team right away.